

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Cancel Claims 21-24 and 34-38.

1. (Previously Presented) A stud spacer for extending between two studs with each stud having an opening therein, the stud spacer comprising:

a main member adapted to extend between the two studs;

the main member including first and second end portions;

a projection extending from one of the end portions;

an opening formed in the other end portion;

wherein the main member includes a pair of side flanges and a pair of end flanges;

wherein the end flanges are adapted to be connected to the two studs that the stud spacer extends between; and

wherein the stud spacer is adapted to be connected to another stud spacer by extending the projection of the one stud spacer through the opening within one stud and into the opening of another stud spacer.

6. (Previously Presented) The stud spacer of claim 1 wherein the main member includes a central section and wherein the side flanges are turned out of the plane of the central section.

7. (Previously Presented) The stud spacer of claim 6 wherein the end flanges and the side flanges are turned in opposite directions with respect to the central section.

8. (Previously Presented) The stud spacer of claim 1 wherein at least one end flange is divided into at least two portions and wherein the projection extends between the two portions.

11. (Previously Presented) The stud spacer of claim 1 wherein the opening formed in the second end portion of the main member includes a slot.